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Clean Specification  
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TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Data Bus for a Plurality of Nodes

This application claims the priority of German Patent Application  
5 198 10 294.1, filed August 10, 1998 and PCT/EP99/01177 filed  
February 23, 1999, the disclosures of which are expressly  
incorporated by reference herein.

The invention relates to a star-shaped data bus for a plurality  
of nodes which exchange data with one another over at least one  
electric line. The circuit-technological realization of a data  
bus of this type is known in the form of an open collector  
circuit. An open collector circuit has the disadvantage that at  
high rates of transmission and many bus nodes a relatively small  
resistance value must be used as collector resistance in order  
15 to achieve a sufficient steepness of the edge of the signal  
information present in pulse form. This leads to high currents  
and the necessity of use of power transistors and power resistors  
as well as high power losses.

The objective of the invention is to provide a data bus of the  
20 type stated initially which makes possible interference-free bus  
communication with low circuit-technological expenditure even in  
the case of a large number of bus nodes.

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